



Official Publication  
of the Newcastle  
Rugby League

# Looking at League

No. 11

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## STATE OF THE 'COMPETITION'

Wests and Lakes on a big roll, Macquarie and Maitland in trouble, Cessnock and Souths putting on the points, Central hanging in there, with Kurri and Waratah always on the cards to cause an upset.

Last week's round didn't really clarify the position of teams on the points table. This weekend's round could congest the table further. The result of every game this weekend has a major bearing on the top five with only Lakes United reasonably assured of two points with a win over Norths.

Macquarie are at home to Kurri and are in a position where they must win. The side should be more settled this week and have the home ground advantage. But reports from the Coalfields suggest that Kurri are keen to cause another upset and cause heaps of trouble for the Scorpions.

Wests are playing well and with their present commitment should quickly end Waratah's new resurgence. The Rosellas need the points as do the Scorpions against Kurri and even with five rounds to go after this one, a loss could spell disaster.

The two big games between teams in the top five have got heaps of interest.

Central are at home to Cessnock and the Butcher Boys as do their visitors need a win. The losing side could drop to seventh spot quite easily. Both sides are even with a good pack of forwards and a balanced set of backs to take every advantage offered.

The team with the better commitment on the day and the team that makes the most of its opportunities will be the one that takes the points.

Maitland are at home to Souths and really have the job ahead of them. The Lions head the table and could consider themselves to be 'safe'. The Pumpkin Pickers will be putting every effort into this one to create as many problems as possible for Souths and pick up two valuable points that will see them still right in contention.

Souths need to keep that lead, otherwise a slip back into the ruck could produce any kind of a result in the weeks leading to the finals.

## Vale, Eric Gilbert

Eric Gilbert, a former top Newcastle League player of the 1920's, passed away on June 8, at the age of 84 years.

Gilbert, held the distinction of representing his District in three football codes, Soccer, Union and his greatest love Rugby League.

He was once described by the late Jack Mathews in a "Newcastle Herald" article as a "football freak".

Eric was a member of the Norths teams that won the competition in 1925 and 1926, he was also in the 1927 team that lost to South.

In 1927 he played in the Newcastle team that defeated South Sydney.

In 1929, 1930, 1931 he played with Tumut in the Maher Cup and represented Wagga along with the great Eric Weissel.

Eric was nicknamed "Brutus" by his team mates (the Greatest Roman of them all) and "Dirty Gilbert" by his opposition.

He played in most positions in the backline and lock forward, always played the game tough and hard, but fair.

Besides being outstanding in football codes, Eric played tennis and cricket in Newcastle A grade comps.

After his Wagga stint, Eric returned to live at Morisset in 1932 where he resided until his death.

He is survived by his wife Elisa and son Neil, who was a member of the Newcastle Referees' Association in the late 60's early 70's.

Vale, Eric Raymond Gilbert.

"K.S."

## 2HD Player of the Year

The "Player of the Year" competition for the 1988 Premiership is being sponsored again by Radio 2HD. Points are awarded out of 10 for the performance of three players in each game.

Points awarded in last round.

### Cessnock v North Newcastle:

J. Hunter (Cess) 9, J. Garvie (Cess) 8, P. Walker (Cess) 8.

### Lakes United v Central Charlestown:

D. Harrington (LU) 8, M. Pitman (LU) 7, D. Newton (CC) 7.

### Waratah-Mayfield v Macquarie Unit:

B. Lantry (WM) 8, G. Shaw (WM) 7, T. Stevenson (MU) 7.

### Kurri Kurri v South Newcastle:

Paul Hill (SN) 8, Tod Donaldson (SN) 7, Tim Vaughan (SN) 7.

### Western Suburbs v Maitland:

P. Webber (WS) 8, M. Flanagan (WS) 8, G. Winchester (Mait) 6.

John Hunter has slipped away to a nine point lead in the competition and with the Goannas going well could hold that lead till the end of the competition. Results will not be published after series 13, the points for the final five matches being announced on Presentation Night — tentatively set down for 31st August, at West Leagues Club.

### Progress Points:

- 50—J. Hunter (Cess)
- 41—T. Stevenson (Mac)
- 39—P. Williams (Kurri)
- 38—T. Price (West)
- 30—T. Vaughan (Sth), M. Sullivan (Mac)
- 28—T. Donaldson (South), M. Burrows (Mait)
- 27—G. Eager (Mait)
- 23—W. Snowden (Cent)
- 22—A. Watt (Cent), B. Aiken (Cess)
- 20—M. Pitman (Lakes), G. Shaw (War)
- 19—C. Mathias (Lakes), M. Winkler (Mait)
- 16—P. Hill (Sth), T. Anderson (Sth)
- 15—A. McDonnell (Cent), P. Webber (West)

# NEWCASTLE RUGBY LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Saturday, June 18—2.45 p.m.

Passmore Oval

## North Newcastle

Royal blue and sky

Coach: Ziggy Niszczo



- 1—IAN LUCIETTO
- 2—MARK WHEATLEY
- 3—DARREN KIRKLAND
- 4—STEVE RIDGEWAY
- 5—PETER SULLIVAN
- DARRYL MAXWELL
- 7—TERRY DENT
- 8—JERRY MAULA
- 9—PETER WILLIAMS
- 10—DAVID STANFORD
- 11—BRUCE EDDON
- 12—RAY KEIGHTLEY
- 13—BRETT DANN

### SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

### PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Referee: P. Lovett

## Lakes United

Blue and gold

Coach: Michael Pitman



- 1—DARREN BUTLER
- 2—LINDSAY BOWNE
- 3—DAVID HARRINGTON
- 4—PHIL CROWE
- 5—SCOTT McDONALD
- 6—PETER WALSH (c) *136*
- 7—SCOTT GUSTARD *6*
- 8—ANDREW SWAN
- 9—COL MATHIAS
- 10—MICK PITMAN
- 11—BEN SULLIVAN *6*
- 12—VICTOR HASLAM
- 13—JIM FOWLER

### SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

### PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Touch Judges: K. Marker (Blue), M. Lethbridge (Red)

## RESERVE GRADE — 1.10 p.m.

### NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Peter Taylor

1—Darren BARRETT

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2—Mark HARWOOD    | Darren JONES—3  |
| 4—Harry GARVIE    | Mark JACKSON—5  |
| 6—Allan ARMSTRONG | Craig AFFLICK—7 |
| 8—Mark PAYNE      | Paul KODELA—9   |
| 10—Eddie ULBURT   | Steven SAULT—11 |
| 12—Neil HALL      | Brian SLADE—13  |

Referee: K. Marker

### LAKES UNITED

Coach: Phil Newton

1—Steven DRINKWATER

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2—Mick LOCKING     | Mark FOSTER—3       |
| 4—Jeff HENSBY      | Sean KEHANE—5       |
| 6—Danny KELLY      | Matthew BLACK (c)—7 |
| 8—Brad BLAKE       | Phil LYONS—9        |
| 10—Jamie McPHERSON | Guy STIG—11         |
| 12—Todd STANDEN    | Mick HUYBERS—13     |

Touch Judges: P. Lovett (Blue), M. Lethbridge (Red)

## THIRD GRADE — 11.45 a.m.

### NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Ray Keighley

1—Mark PRASSER

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 2—Mark SHERIDAN  | Adam LOWE—3     |
| 4—Dave STEVENS   | Mark CROCKETT—5 |
| 6—Shane BANKS    | Robert GOLDEN—7 |
| 8—Bill IZZARD    | Col SMITH—9     |
| 10—Ivan TOCKNALL | Mark PRATTER—11 |
| 12—Peter TAYLOR  | Brad SMITH—13   |

Referee: M. Lethbridge

### LAKES UNITED

Coach: Steve Piper

1—Rod BENTLIN

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2—Russell MARRIOTT | Paul VALAIRE—3      |
| 4—Dion ROUGHAN     | Mark WARD—5         |
| 6—Dean NOONAN      | Craig CAMPBELL—7    |
| 8—Tony LYNCH       | Brett HUYBERS—9     |
| 10—David REGAN     | Peter WILLOUGHBY—11 |
| 12—Tod YARROW      | Craig MITCHELL—13   |

Touch Judges: P. Lovett (Blue), K. Marker (Red)

## NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE CLUB

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## **First Grade**

SOUTH NEWCASTLE 36 (N. O'Brien, P. Parr 2, T. Vaughan, J. Pengilley tries, P. Parr 6 goals) d MAITLAND 14 (C. Barclay, G. Codrington tries, B. Lantry 3 goals).

CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 21 (L. Hammond, E. Smith, C. Nealon tries, W. Snowden 4 goals, W. Schillings drop goal) d CESSNOCK 14 (P. Walker, A. Thompson tries, J. Hunter 3 goals).

MACQUARIE UNITED 26 (P. Hazell 2, M. Stortenbeker, P. Tyne tries, J. Holt 5 goals) d KURRI KURRI 20 (J. Munro, Messenger, M. Sumner, P. Williams tr P. Hafey 2 goals).

WESTERN SUBURBS 34 (P. Atkins 2, B. Felshaw, M. Graham, P. Webber, W. Dawson tries, G. Price 5 goals) d WARATAH-MAYFIELD 12 (G. Shaw try, B. Lantry 4 goals).

LAKES UNITED 114 (L. Bowne 8, P. Walsh 3, D. Harrington 3, P. Crowe 3, J. McPherson, S. Gustard, A. Swan, V. Haslam tries, P. Walsh 13, S. Gustard, B. Sullivan goals) d NORTH NEWCASTLE 0.

## **Reserve Grade**

Maitland 40 d South 20, Central 56 d Cessnock 12, Macquarie 34 d Kurri 16, West 32 d Waratah 12, Lakes 138 d North 0.

## **Third Grade**

Maitland 28 d South 10, Cessnock 14 d Central 10, Macquarie 24 d Kurri 8, West 16 d Waratah 4, Lakes 86 d North 4.